

# THE ASSURED WAY

The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message

October 2010



## The Obvious

Sometimes in these modern times we get so caught up in our high tech world, that we forget the obvious. Let us take an airplane for example. It was designed to fly and does that function very well and allows us the ability to commute much more easily from place to place. There is a small part on an aircraft that is very much needful however. It is a simple and obvious item called wheels; which of course allows us to land after our uneventful and useful flight. If the wheels are not retracted and put down during landing, it can ruin your entire day. Of course that never happen does it? You might be surprised to learn it happens more often than you would care to believe. That is the reason aircraft have warning systems to alert the pilot in case he has a brain dead moment.

There are other obvious things in life also. The Word of God was placed in man's hands so he might have a warning system in his life also, so he does not fail. For example the Book of Ephesians Chapter 4:11 tells us,

By Apostle Norm Lyles



"He gave some apostles, some prophets, some Evangelist, some pastors and some teachers." That is a rather simple statement; not really very difficult to confuse ourselves with now isn't it? We can clearly understand that the Church that the Lord Jesus Christ set up contained Apostles and we of course understand from other places in the Scripture that there were twelve. We can also understand plainly that it was Christ who called His twelve Apostles, as again, can be plainly read in all four Gospels. So far it is pretty basic right?

We can then read in the book of Acts chapter one:15-26 that the Apostles them-

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
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WITH THE ELIJAH MESSAGE inc.**

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**FOREWORD**

*The Assured Way*, the official publication of THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WITH THE ELIJAH MESSAGE inc. comes to you as an expression of hope we have in Christ.

In its pages are found the thoughts and expressions of a united people, whose only aim is to promote the cause of Christ by spreading abroad to every nation, tongue, and people, the true gospel of Christ, that through obedience to his laws we might be found worthy of eternal life.

In this publication, The Record of the Nephites is quoted many times. This book was revealed and translated by the gift and power of God: The year 1828 marked the beginning of the restoration of all things. It is a history of the people who once lived in the Americas, some who are the ancestors of the Native America Indians. Though it contains a record of two other groups of people who once lived in the Americas, it is for the most part a record of the people of Nephi.

The Messages so often mentioned in this publication are messages from the Lord, brought to earth by his chosen servant John the Baptist, who comes to earth in a glorified body to finish the work given him of God; that of restoring all things (Matthew 17:11). The angel first came in 1829 and restored the priesthood authority of the Son of God, that The Church of Christ might be established as in the days of the Apostles.

In 1927, the angel messenger again appeared, and on numerous subsequent visits, has brought to us The Word of the Lord that the Church of Christ might be set in order, that a people might be prepared to be the bride of Christ. This "The Elijah Message" so many have looked for, "The midnight cry" has been proclaimed, a warning of destruction, but to the people of the Lord, a message that Christ's coming is near at hand. Fear God and give glory to his name, for the hour of his judgment has come. Awake thou that sleep and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.

We hope that whosoever reads these pages might make it a matter of prayer and fasting in humility before God, that they may know for themselves, that God has again spoken and revealed His will from Heaven. To this end we dedicate *The Assured Way*.

The Board of Publications

**NOTICES**

The Quorum of Twelve recognizes the teaching and wording found in the Bible (Authorized King James Version), The Record of the Nephites, and The Word of the Lord: Brought to Mankind by and Angel, as our rule and guide as the stable wording of God.

It is the agreement of The Quorum of Apostles of this church that no minister of this faith is to ordain any man into the ministry of this church until said candidate has with all his heart and soul confessed he agrees with everything written in our *Articles of Faith and Practice*. It is each elders duty to seek guidance from and to keep the apostles informed of his works in regions he is laboring.

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selves understood that Christ had called twelve Apostles in His Church and that since God is not changeable they needed to have twelve apostles in the church as well, if they were to represent our Lord Jesus Christ. Verse 22 tells us, "Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us to his resurrection. And they appointed two, Joseph called Barasabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed, and said, thou, Lord which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen. That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas was by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles." Now all of that is rather obvious. The Apostles had the Holy Ghost, and they had walked with Jesus for three years and were certainly well trained by the Lord Jesus Himself. We can note that they had followed the Scripture, un-

derstanding there were to be twelve apostles. We also can note that they prayed and sought God to guide them. And of course we can read that they then voted (being led by the Holy Spirit for Matthias). All of that is of course very obvious. A bit like Peter in Matthew 17 saying Lord if you will allow let us build three places of worship or churches and of course we remember that God overshadowed it all and said, "Jesus Only" or in simple language not three churches, rather ONE. You see my friend God simply does not change at all.

Now it probably should be noted however, that we can never find another Scripture reference to Matthias anywhere in the Bible. Has that ever come to your attention? In fact not too much later in time, Jesus Christ Called the Apostle Paul and that would have made thirteen apostles if God had accepted the choice of the Apostles now wouldn't it? Of course we know the obvious ; God simply does not change.

We live in an interesting time today. We have men who say they believe the Word of God, yet they still

pray and by "revelation and agreement ", they ordain men to an Apostle whom they have prayed about and called themselves by "revelation", and of course we understand that these same men are filled with the Holy Ghost, as was Peter. The only difficulty is that the obvious statement in Ephesians 4:11 which said, "HE GAVE some apostles..." It is rather easy to overlook the obvious: that it was Christ who did the calling and never by revelation or feelings, or prophecy, or vote. God doesn't change does He? The Lord said in Message 5:4, " The Lord has called you men to assist in His Work in the last days, to build up the kingdom of God: and to help in his work let there be added with you...as members of the twelve apostles in the Church of Christ." It really isn't too complicated: God called them Himself; not man through revelation.

Forgetting to put the wheels down on an aircraft during a landing can certainly ruin a passenger's and a pilot's day. It is tough on airplanes and some-

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times people even get killed because of the obvious. The Word of God is obvious too and really not very

complicated and it certainly is not changeable. So why do we continue to call apostles by revelation, when they claim to be filled

with the Holy Spirit and yet it totally contradicts the obvious: The Word of God. Think about it

## Missionary Report from Rwanda

by Apostle Norm Lyles

### Continued from September's Issue

We would be welcomed there by Disciple Robert Gizamba and his lovely wife Rose. This wonderful minister welcomed us into his home and would take care of us and allow us to use his home as a base of operations for our missionary effort in the Ugandan area. What a blessing this fine couple would be for us and the Work of the Lord. Both Robert and His wife did everything possible to make our time in Uganda pleasant and enabling us to accomplish the needful things in our travels and ministering in that part of Uganda.

Disciple Githinji departed for Kenya and Disciple Tom Matekwa joined us to help with the work in Uganda. Without these good men, our efforts in Uganda would be much more complicated

and surely less effective. We traveled onto the slopes of Mt. Elgon and to the local church of Kapchora, where two other churches had traveled to join us in the teachings and preaching. We would spend two days and a night in this area and would enjoy a respite from the heat, with some rain. The down side of the rain is it also caused mudslides which unfortunately covered some homes and caused the deaths of over 100 people and made travel a bit more complicated. The water falls upon Mt. Elgon are truly a beautiful sight and the area is lush with tropical growth and banana plants and mango and avocado trees, which offered us with fresh fruit every day. We taught the gospel and helped in training the pastors who had gathered there; God enabled many things which had been problems for them to be

cleared up and also enlightened the flocks to a clearer understanding of the Word of the Lord. Some of the Pastors requested and were invited to a pastor's seminar we would be teaching in Kitale, Kenya in about two more weeks. There is great interest in the Gospel and an honest desire among those in the ministry to all preach and teach only the words of the Lord and to abide in His Teachings. It tells us in Romans 10 "Faith comes by hearing, but hearing by the Word of God", and how can they hear, without a preacher, and how can they preach, except they be sent. There are many ideas and doctrines of men in the world today, yet do we not clearly understand it is only the Gospel of Jesus Christ which brings forth knowledge and repentance? It is Christ who said that He was the bread of Life in John chapter 6 and if we

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eat of the bread of life; we would have eternal life. So truly we rejoice when we find men of honest report and filled with the Spirit of God whom honestly seeks the Word of the Lord.

Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> of March found us in the Mbale local Church preaching and teaching and baptizing souls whom have made a decision for the Lord. The rain stopped long enough for baptisms and following the baptisms, we journeyed onward to Baboa/Kasuleta area and once again taught the leaders more concerning the Gospel. Disciple Beck from Germany, suffered with malaria, yet he continued on with us and was a wonderful help in preaching and teaching from the Word of the Lord. This strong Disciple has been such a blessing unto us in our travels in carrying the Gospel to so many precious souls. His gentle manner and loving Spirit is an inspiration to all that meet him.

Traveling unto another church west of Mbale, we encountered some souls whom had been involved in witchcraft and demon possession. We found several

souls who had demons and with prayer and laying on of hands; God was able to remove the demons and it was there for the entire church to witness. We then counseled them on how to avoid such things in the future. Demons are real and people far too often, open themselves unto them, by the way they conduct their lives and the things they do. Demons have no power over Christ and Christ promised to indwell us.



We then traveled to the home of Disciple George Madembe and were able to preach and teach to the Church gathered there, before returning late in the day to Mbale Uganda. The Church gathered at Disciple's Madembe home area was such a blessing and his wife made us feel so welcome and we met there a man who would later follow us to Kitale Kenya and be baptized at the Pastors Seminar we were holding in Kitale. He was a good man and seeking with an open

heart the Lord and desired so much to walk in the Word and live by the word of God.

At Mbale we baptized 9 precious souls who had waited us, before departing for the Church at Bubwaga where we preached and taught to the four churches gathered there to greet us, along with several pastors from different Churches. We taught and preached all day and then taught the pastors at night, expounding unto them a deeper understanding of the Gospel than they had known before. We stayed up most of the night clearing up questions they had asked concerning the teachings of men and traditions they had been participating in which were simply the traditions of men and certainly were not an edification unto the flock.

The next day we walked about five miles to the river and baptized eleven souls and confirmed them members of the Church; and then walked another four miles to the Church at Bubwaga and ordained two men. The Spirit of God was in abundance and the blessings of God were upon all that were present. Some of these precious

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souls had walked over 15 miles in rugged mountains with lush jungle growth to arrive and receive the teachings and would travel back through a Sky filled with the rain which had accompanied us throughout Uganda. To myself the rain is a blessed relief from the heat (even though it remains hot even in the rain), but it makes travel a bit difficult on these mud soaked trails on steep mountain slopes.

The next day we returned to Mbale, in preparation for a journey to Tororo and the home of Disciple Opolot, who was laboring in Kampala. We spent the night fellowshiping with his wife and sharing in the love of God and His Word. She graciously fed us, and allowed us to spend the night. We spoke deep into the night of the things of God and calling her husband on the phone and praying for him and his family.

We arose early the next morning and began the journey back to Kitale, Kenya. We arrived via Matatu after a four and half hour journey. Dusty, somewhat weary from our travels, but ever grateful for the

safe journey our Lord had given unto us. Peace accompanied us the entire way, and although many difficult things which I have not written about were part of our journey, we full well understand that it is God whom provided our protection and all the precious souls who came through the waters of baptism, the understanding of the pastors, and men who became part of Christ's ministry during our journey, and the healings that have accompanied us throughout our



journey in Africa. We feel that God has better equipped the ministry to function in a land where it is so necessary to be bold in the word of God, but also to have the wisdom of God not to offend while being zealous for the Word of God, and to look to the needs of the people and ground them in the Word of the Lord. We spent much of our time teaching the foundation of the Lord's Church and His Doctrine, as 2<sup>nd</sup> John (small book in back of your bible) verse 9; tells us "if you have not the doctrine

of Christ, you have not God". Much of our teaching comes from Ephesians, and all of the teaching comes only from the Word of God. All things are proven by the Word of God and in much of Africa; there is a real need to move away from the traditions of men. Many of the pastors would travel the following week to Kenya for the Pastor's Seminar we would hold there for five days and nights. We will be holding it for 13 hours per day; and the men attending are very serious about the word of God.

Arriving back in Kitale, Kenya; we walked to the Church Headquarters for East Africa, and observed the progress on the construction of the building. All of the Church members in Kitale were at work. The women cooking on the construction site. They were cooking on open fires Ugali, rice, and Chicken, and tea--all the while tending to their children, as the men worked on the building. Each day began with prayer, then men would labor (all by hand) digging the foundation over eight feet deep, hand cutting the steel for the pillars, breaking the rocks by hand, mix-



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ing cement from bags by hand. All the work is done without machinery and all is done manual labor. Donkeys bring the timbers, steel, and other heavy things. Members bring what little they have (chickens, rice, maize, tea, cement bags, money for materials, and labor for 12 to 16 hours each day) they sleep in the temporary church building on the floor on mats and sing praises unto God. I cannot express how deeply the construction of the east Africa headquarters building touches me; to witness how deeply these members love the Lord and labor for the Building of the headquarters building and

how very much it means to them: there are simply not enough words to express how great of a matter this really is to the people here. When I read about the building of the temple of the Lord I find it very, very similar. The body (church) of Christ, laboring with one accord and praising the Lord and singing praises unto the Lord. All God's people laboring together in love and Unity. What a Joy and Blessing! In my next report I will tell of the Pastor's seminar and our journey into Tanzania.

I hope and pray that all who read this report will forgive any spelling errors and truly be blessed with under-

standing how the Lord's work is progressing here in Africa. God has poured out His Spirit in Great measure and we have known His protection in our travels. We have known His Love and His Grace in our ministry unto the people of the Lord. We truly have been blessed ourselves and the healings which have been and continue to be part of this journey we are forever grateful unto God. Rejoice my Brothers and Sisters, for indeed the Lord is Faithful and True. God Bless and Keep all who have shared in this report and thank you for your prayers (always needed) and your support and your love.

## Message 43

*June 14, 1939, 1:20 a.m. The Messenger appeared before me at my room, 217 South Liberty, Independence, Missouri, and bade me awake and take the message he would give, which follows. The Spirit and power divine was present and the angel was clothed with light. He spoke kindly and with authority. I felt exquisite peace while he was present and this feeling remained. He said:*

1 "Awake and take the message I shall give you.

2 Behold, I come from the Lord your God, I am the Messenger of the Lord. I am sent to speak his words that his will might be done among men.

3 The Lord has seen the solemnness of his people and he knows your hearts. He hears the prayers that are from the heart and he

will answer. Thus to all those that will humble themselves before him, he will see your solemnity and he shall send great peace unto you and your hearts shall be filled with love, from the power of his righteousness.

4 Therefore be ye humble; in humility speak the truth and you shall receive greater power, even the power of the Spirit of God

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to carry the gospel message to the nations of the earth. The hand of God shall be manifested.

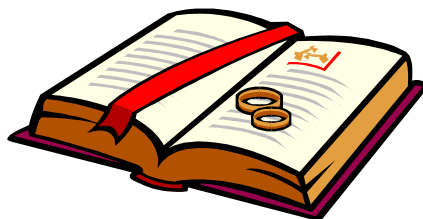
5 'Thus saith the Lord your God: Blessed are ye of my servants that defend this cause, for this is my work and man cannot please me unless he comes within my will, for I have designed that my messenger prepare the way before me, and a people that will have their hearts filled with love.

6 Man cannot change my plan nor my decree for they are unalterable.<sup>1</sup> Those that will not hear me in my way and heeding my voice obey, you shall not be called mine at the last day. Man may fail but my word shall not. It shall not return unto me void.<sup>2</sup> Those that are willing will carry my work onward, for Zion will be redeemed and Israel gathered.

7 Verily I say unto all, turn away from the past with its sins and traditions and move in the will of the Lord, and I will touch you and greater power and love will come upon you and bring together many wandering souls back to the paths of

peace.

8 Verily, the powers of evil shall be overcome and peace shall reign. Those that learn of me and press into my Kingdom, I shall



bring peace unto you. Verily, verily, I shall walk and talk with you, your hearts shall be full of love. My Zion<sup>3</sup> shall be a place of peace, a nation of righteousness, where, in obedience to my gospel, salvation shall be found.

9 Ye that heareth the whisperings of my Spirit how that it mellows the hearts of men, continue to be humble before me, and I shall do just and great things among you; even the sick shall be healed; the lame walk; the blind be made to see.

10 Powers of peace and love shall guide all those that are willing to hear and obey, and the powers of evil subdued. Rejoice that ye are the children of your God.

11 Yea, unto those that harden their hearts; know ye not it is sin to kick<sup>4</sup> against the pricks? The prayers of my people shall be heard.

12 Read the words I send unto you by my messenger. Study them and obey my will fully, and eternity shall have place for you.

13 I have heard your honest plea that I will touch you and fill you with my Spirit. Thus I have spoken and it shall be, for I send mine angel to minister unto you, saith the Lord your God.

14 May the people of the Lord take upon them new courage, rejoicing in the peace of God. Let the servants of God speak kindly one to another and be humble for this is the Lord's work and if your minds become darkened, or your vision of understanding becomes closed, your hearts full of selfishness and unbelief, this shall be your sign<sup>5</sup> that the authority that has been placed upon you is taken from you. Others that are willing to labor in the Lord's vineyard shall arise to accomplish the Lord's work.



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15 This is the day that ye who are called must work with your might for the pruning of the vineyard of the Lord for the last time. Therefore turn away from the traditions of men and things that cause contention.

16 Let W. C. Wilson be set apart as an apostle in the quorum of twelve. Let him be humble and place himself in the will of God and great good shall be done. Let him labor in the West. Let the twelve be in unison and at peace, with their hearts filled with love. Let all the apostles go to their appointed fields, for this is a day of haste and if they fail, they fail of themselves.

17 Some that have rejected my words will repent, others will not. Be at peace. Look to the Lord and go onward with the work. Let all come in by the door and prepare themselves to walk humbly before God.

18 Let Joe Yazzie and Martin Johnson be set apart as elders to labor among the people of their blood and if they will be humble and abide in the will

of the Lord, many shall be brought to the knowledge of the truth.

19 Let A. C. Pape heed the call as the Lord has felt after him. If he will hear the word of God, peace shall come unto him. Let him be set apart as an elder. Let him teach the gospel, and if he will be humble he shall take the words of truth to the hearts of many.

20 Let Reuben Castator and George Everson be set apart as elders and let them labor as much as possible among those that are yet in sin, and the Lord will bless their work.

21 Let N. P. Peterson and Earl Cartland be set apart as elders and let them labor in the field bringing the honest and lost to the Church of Christ and their reward shall be sure. If they will be humble greater responsibility shall be given them.

22 Let Edward W. Aldous, Paul F. Diefendorf, Elmer M. Ryland be set apart to labor as elders and humble themselves in the will of the Lord that they may take the gospel of life to many, as the time will come when the

gospel must be taken to other nations.

23 Let my servant, Reginald Layzell, come into this work and set him apart as an elder and if he will be humble he shall bring peace to many and his joy shall be full. Let him teach the gospel of life and his reward shall be sure.'

24 Let all be true and abide in the words of the Lord who came to give himself a ransom<sup>6</sup> that man might be redeemed and brought back to the will of the Father and he sees it well done. Be filled with love, be kind to all men, and speak the truth for it is Christ's words that shall judge you at the last day.

25 Let the priestcraft<sup>7</sup> be cleansed from the Church as this is a holy work and it must not be defiled. Let all do their work and God will bless their efforts, and the honest in heart will be brought to the knowledge of the truth, for they will hear the voice of God.

26 The Lord has accepted the humbleness and solemnness of his people of

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## October 2010

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this assembly and if you will continue to be thus before him he will make you a blessing. If the servants of the Lord will labor in their calling many people shall be brought to find peace and love in the Church of Christ that shall continue on until the Christ shall come to claim her as his bride.

27 If the people will continue to humble themselves and be true and faithful many shall assist in the building of the temple of the Lord. Great shall be the joy of the people of the Lord because of the house wherein they shall find spiri-

tual food<sup>8</sup> and knowledge and the goodness of God shall be their portion. Peace shall then be in the hearts of all the righteous and evil powers will fade away.

28 I am the Messenger of the Lord, the Elias that was

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for to come that the will of God might be proclaimed and a people prepared to meet the Christ when he comes. Behold, I have come. Hear, ye children of men, and turn not a deaf ear to my words as I come to do the will of the Lord and my name is John.<sup>9</sup>

29 To you, my fellow servant, prepare, for greater responsibility rests upon you, and your brethren shall uphold you, and blessed are the true and humble.

30 I shall come again as the Lord will direct. Amen.”